

NAME: _____

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LITERARY TERMS: NARRATIVE FICTION

BEFORE YOU START: READ THROUGH ALL TERMS BELOW.

(Re)familiarize yourself with the available choices. As you choose the best term for a definition, **cross it off the list**. **USE PENCIL** so that you can erase and **change your choices** as you encounter a term that feels a **better, more specific fit** than your first instincts.

CHARACTER
SETTING
PACING
MINOR CHARACTER
MOTIVATION
CONFLICT
PLOT
RISING ACTION
PROTAGONIST

INTERNAL CONFLICT
ANTAGONIST
CLIMAX
FALLING ACTION
FLASHBACK
EXTERNAL CONFLICT
EXPOSITION
INCITING EVENT
CENTRAL CONFLICT

SYMBOL
RESOLUTION
THEME
MAIN CHARACTER
CHARACTERIZATION
DIRECT CHARACTERIZATION
INDIRECT CHARACTERIZATION

1. _____ A person (or animal) who takes part in the literary narrative or story.
_____ Is the main character in the story ☺
_____ Takes part in the story's events, but is not the main focus.
2. _____ The central character in a literary work, not always 'good'
3. _____ A character or force in conflict with the main character, not always 'bad'
4. _____ The act of creating and developing a character. A process not a thing.
The way that an author presents a character and reveals character traits.
_____ The author specifically states the character's traits and characteristics through direct, objective description
_____ The author reveals and implies character through suggested associations or actions: what he or she looks like, says, and does, and lets the reader draw their own conclusions.

5. _____ A Struggle between opposing forces (i.e. Man vs. Man; Man vs. Nature; Man vs. Technology; Man vs. Society; Man vs. Supernatural)
- _____ The most important/core problem in a literary work.
- _____ A problem that takes place within the character's mind
- _____ A problem that takes place outside of the character – one which they have no control over.
6. _____ The time and place of the action of the story.
7. _____ The reason that explains – or partially explains -- a character's thoughts, feelings, actions or speech. It is the reason that the characters do what they do.
8. _____ The sequence of events in a story. A typical sequence progresses through:
- _____ The part of the story that introduces the basic elements of the plot.
- _____ The incident that introduces the central conflict in the story, and "gets the ball rolling." It may have occurred before the story begins.
- _____ This is the development of the story. The tension rises as characters are affected by the conflict, or complications on the way to solving conflict
- _____ When the rising action reaches its highest level of intensity
- _____ The releasing of the tension; often involves revelations before resolution
- _____ When all of the problems of the story are resolved.
Also called Denouement: French for "the untying of the knot."
9. _____ How the author controls/times the presentation/revelation of information at different points in the story: gradual, jumpy, close-up/zoom-out
10. _____ A central message gradually and broadly revealed in a work of literature, often focusing on aspects of social life or human nature
11. _____ An object or character which stands in for a broader idea or theme that holds significant meaning for the story